

Consumer Information Standards (Fibre Content Labelling) Regulations 2000

Michael Hardie Boys, Governor-General

Order in Council

At Wellington this 14th day of August 2000

Present:

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council

Pursuant to section 27(2) of the Fair Trading Act 1986, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting on the advice and with the consent of the Executive Council and on the recommendation of the Minister of Consumer Affairs, makes the following regulations.

Contents

- 1 Title
- 2 Commencement
- 3 Application
- 4 Consumer information standard for fibre content labelling of textile goods
- 5 Revocation
- 6 Transitional provision

Schedule 1

Application

Schedule 2

Variations to Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2622:1996 Textile products---Fibre content labelling

Regulations

1 Title

These regulations are the Consumer Information Standards (Fibre Content Labelling) Regulations 2000.

2 Commencement

These regulations come into force on 1 October 2000.

3 Application

These regulations apply to the goods described in Part 1 of Schedule 1, but not to the goods described in Part 2 of that schedule.

4 Consumer information standard for fibre content labelling of textile goods

Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2622:1996 Textile products---Fibre content labelling (with the variations set out in Schedule 2) is a consumer information standard for the goods to which these regulations apply for the purposes of section 27(2) of the Fair Trading Act 1986.

5 Revocation

The Consumer Information Standards (Fibre Content Labelling) Regulations 1992 (SR 1992/89) are revoked on the close of 1 October 2001.

6 Transitional provision

Until the Consumer Information Standards (Fibre Content Labelling) Regulations 1992 are revoked,---

- (a) a person must comply with either the Consumer Information Standards (Fibre Content Labelling) Regulations 1992 or these regulations; and
- (b) compliance with either set of regulations is compliance with the other set of regulations.

Schedule 1

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Application

Part 1

Goods to which regulations apply

Textile goods

Goods made from natural or synthetic textiles by spinning, weaving, knitting, felting, bonding, tufting, or similar process.

Part 2

Goods to which regulations do not apply

Goods made from customer's fabrics

Goods made according to a customer's order from fabric---

- (a) supplied by the customer; or
- (b) selected by the customer from a range of fabrics offered, by way of samples or any other means, by a retailer.

Men's, women's, children's, and infants' wear

Armbands, belts, braces, collars, corsets, garters, suspenders, handkerchiefs, and hats.

Footwear

Footwear (except hosiery) and textile materials used in the manufacture of footwear.

Household drapery

Butter muslin, centres, cleaning cloths, dish cloths, doilies, duchess sets, dusters, floor cloths, gauze, mosquito netting and covers made from mosquito netting, pressing cloths, runners, serviettes, ticking, and tray cloths.

Haberdashery

All haberdashery except elastic, elastic threads, ribbons, zips, iron-on binding patches or trim, sewing thread, velcro type fasteners, and curtain making kits.

Furnishings and furniture

Awnings, backing materials for carpets, coir mats, cushion covers manufactured from remnants and labelled by the manufacturer with the following disclaimer: "cushion cover manufactured from remnants, fibre content unknown", draught excluders, lampshades, matting, oil baize, paper felt used for underlinings, tapestries, underfelt, upholstered furniture frame and furniture mechanism covers or linings (such as may be found on the bottom or back of some upholstered furniture) except upholstery fabric covers for the major surfaces of upholstered furniture, wall hangings, and window blinds.

Jute products

All jute products.

Medical and surgical goods

Goods intended for medical and surgical use as bandages, dressings, sanitary pads, and materials forming part of manufactured medical and surgical goods.

Canvas goods

Beach umbrella coverings, canvas, deckchair covers, duck, garden umbrella coverings, and sail cloth.

Industrial cloth

Bookbinding cloth, filter cloth, mop cloth, printers' and signwriters' cloth, sweat rags, ticket buckram, and undertakers' cloth.

Miscellaneous goods

Artificial flowers, bags and cases (including briefcases, handbags, purses, school bags, sports bags, travel bags, wallets, and wash bags), basket hangers, cords, firemen's hoses, flags, flex coverings, garden gloves, garden hoses, goods intended for one-time use only, lashings, mops, ornaments, parasols, polypropylene webbing and covers for furniture, ribbons forming part of manufactured articles, shoe holders, shoelaces, sporting goods (except apparel) used for the purposes of sport, toys, twine, umbrellas, and woven labels.

Secondhand goods

All secondhand goods.

Schedule 2

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Variations to Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2622:1996 Textile products--- Fibre content labelling

Clause 2

Omit.

Clause 8.2.1

Omit paragraph (a) and substitute:

- "(a) General Except if exempted under paragraph (aa), the fibre content of a made-up product must be stated on a permanent label attached to the product.
The permanent label must be accessible for examination by a prospective purchaser.
If the permanent label is not accessible because of the way in which the product is packaged, displayed, or folded, the fibre content must be stated also in 1 of the following ways:
- "(i) on a removable ticket or label attached to the product; or
- "(ii) on a pamphlet accompanying the product; or
- "(iii) on a wrapper or package in which the product is sold.

The wording as to the fibre content on any label, ticket, pamphlet,

wrapper or package must be in English, be clearly legible, and be of medium width lettering of which no individual letter may be less than 1.5 mm high (see Notes).

NOTES:

- "1 AS 2392 provides guidance on the positioning of labels.
- "2 Medium width means the width which the manufacturer (of the type) puts forward under the name of the family (ie, the group of typefaces that are derived from 1 basic design) as representing the design in that normal width from which variants in the family have been or may be derived.

"(aa) Exemption from permanent label requirements The fibre content of a made-up product described in paragraph (ab) does not have to be stated on a permanent label attached to the product, but must be stated in 1 of the following ways:

- "(i) on a removable ticket or label attached to the product; or
- "(ii) on a pamphlet accompanying the product; or
- "(iii) on a wrapper or package in which the product is sold.

"(ab) Made-up products exempted from permanent label requirements:

- "(i) men's and boys' wear: gloves, mittens, all types of hosiery, washable incontinence garments, and reversible jackets:
- "(ii) women's and girls' wear: neckwear, gloves, mittens, all types of hosiery, washable incontinence garments, reversible jackets, and shawls:
- "(iii) baby wear: gloves, mittens, bibs, washable fitted nappies, squares of flannelette, terry towelling or muslin, and baby pilchers:
- "(iv) household drapery: face washers; tablecloths; oven cloths; bath mats; shower curtains; place mats; pot holders; finger tips; appliance covers for teapots, toasters, and similar articles; towels; and towelling:
- "(v) haberdashery: elastic, elastic threads, ribbons, zips, iron-on binding patches or trim, sewing thread, velcro type fasteners, and curtain making kits."

Marie Shroff,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

Explanatory Note

This note is not part of the regulations, but is intended to indicate their general effect.

These regulations, which come into force on 1 October 2000, replace the Consumer Information Standards (Fibre Content Labelling) Regulations 1992. The regulations declare the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2622:1996 Textile products---Fibre content labelling, with certain variations, to be a consumer information standard for textile goods for the purposes of section 27 of the Fair Trading Act 1986.

The standard specifies requirements for fibre content labelling of textile goods. These regulations exclude certain textile goods from the application of the standard.

It is an offence under section 40 of the Fair Trading Act 1986 for a person to supply, or offer to supply, or advertise to supply goods to which a consumer information standard relates unless the person complies with the consumer information standard. In addition, the Act provides for the granting of injunctions and specifies other remedies that may be obtained against persons who contravene Part II of the Act.

The Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2622:1996 Textile products---Fibre content labelling supercedes the previous standard AS 2622---1987 Textile products---Fibre content labelling prescribed by the previous regulations. There is a transitional period until 1 October 2001, during which either standard may be complied with.

The main changes from the previous standard are as follows:

- o the ability for products described as "pure wool", "all wool", or any similar term to contain up to 20% of certain other animal fibres has been removed:
- o there are new tolerances for technical and decorative effect in labelling:

- o labelling requirements for products containing reclaimed fibre have been added.

Issued under the authority of the Acts and Regulations Publication Act 1989.

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These regulations are administered in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs.